

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV OECD UK

SUBJECT: SURVEY ON FLUOROCARBON PRODUCTION, USE AND  
RESEARCH

REF: STATE 246425, 217573, A-5061

1. UK IS CONDUCTING ITS OWN APPRAISAL OF FLUOROCARBON SITUATION AND DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT EXPECTS TO PUBLISH REPORT AT END OF 1975. PRODUCTION FIGURES ARE BEING COLLECTED UNDER THIS PROGRAM AND WILL BE AVAILABLE IN DETAIL LATER. MEANWHILE, THE FOLLOWING BRIEF DATA WERE SUPPLIED BY CENTRAL UNIT ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION.

2. NAMES OF PRODUCERS OF FLUOROCARBONS: IN THE UK THE MAIN PRODUCERS ARE IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD. (ARCTON) AND ISC CHEMICALS (ISCEON). DU PONT DOES NOT PRODUCE CHLORMFLUOROCARBONS IN THIS COUNTRY, BUT IMPORT AND DISTRIBUTE THEM.

3. COMPREHENSIVE OR HISIORICAL FIGURES FOR FLUOROCARBON PRODUCTION NOT AVAILABLE, BUT UNDERSTAND THAT 35,000 TONS  
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OF FLUOROCARBONS WERE USED IN AEROSOLS IN 1973 (337.5

MILLION UNITS) AND ABOUT HALF THAT MUCH AGAIN WAS USED IN OTHER WAYS, CHIEFLY IN REFRIGERATION AND AIR-CONDITIONING.

4. ESTIMATED FLUOROCARBON (F11 AND F12) PROPELLANT USERS BY AEROSOL PRODUCT TYPE FOR 1974 WERE AS FOLLOWS:

M. UNITS    UNITS/1000

CAPITA

|       |      |                                    |
|-------|------|------------------------------------|
| 275.0 | 4914 | PERSONAL                           |
| 18.0  | 322  | MEDICAL                            |
| 17.0  | 304  | HOUSEHOLD (INCLUDING INSECTICIDES) |
| 23.5  | 400  | INDUSTRIAL (INCLUDING AUTOMOTIVE   |

PRODUCTS AND PAINTS)

M. UNITS    UNITS/1000

CAPITA

|       |      |               |
|-------|------|---------------|
| 4.0   | 71   | MISCELLANEOUS |
| 337.5 | 6030 | TOTALS        |

USING A POPULATION FIGURE OF 55,968,000 FOR THE UK FOR 1974 (OPCS). FIGURES FOR THE UK IN ATTACHMENT III OF THE REFERENCE AIRGRAM APPEAR TO BE BASED ON A UK POPULATION FIGURE OF 65,637,000 WHICH IS INCORRECT.

5. RESEARCH IS BEING CARRIED OUT AT THE ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT AT HARWELL ON STRATOSPHERIC PHOTO-CHEMISTRY AND ONE-DIMENSIONAL MODELLING; AND AT THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE ON MODELLING OF THE ATMOSPHERE IN GENERAL. FURTHER RESEARCH NEEDS ARE BEING CONSIDERED. PRODUCERS ARE CURRENTLY CARRYING OUT RESEARCH ON POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO FLUOROCARBONS WITH PARTICULAR INTENSITY, BUT THE INDUSTRY IS NOT CONFIDENT THAT ANY ADEQUATE REPLACEMENT IS IN SIGHT. THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE HAS LONG-TERM (SINCE 1920S) MEASUREMENTS OF ATMOSPHERIC OZONE FROM GROUND LEVEL USING THE DOBSON SPECTROPHOTOMETER; AND THE COMESA PROGRAM (WHICH ALSO INVOLVES THE NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY) HAS MEASUREMENTS BOTH IN THE STRATOSPHERE AND THE LABORATORY AND ATMOSPHERIC MODELLING. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THESE RESULTS WILL BE PUBLISHED.

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